

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Mental illness affects millions of Americans annually and costs our nation billions of dollars each year in lost productivity, social dependence, and health care costs; and,

Whereas, Each year, 12 million or more young people are stricken with mental illness, interfering with the vital developmental and maturational process of our nation's greatest natural resources; and,

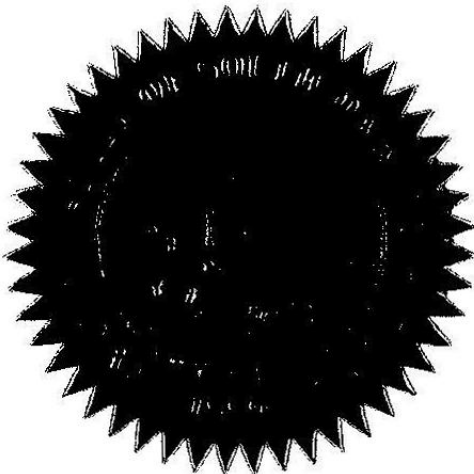
Whereas, Our elderly, the fastest growing segment of our population, are particularly vulnerable to mental illness; and,

Whereas, Mental illness, widely feared and misunderstood, is increasingly treatable, and the understanding of mental illness itself and of new and better treatment techniques can only bring about still better prospects of amelioration and recovery of those so afflicted:


Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 3 through October 9, 2004, as

MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Second Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State